

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A document reading means includes document transport means for transporting a document; optical reading means for reading a document image, the optical reading means being provided with a movable exposure member which stops at a predetermined reading position and emits light onto the document; support means for supporting the document being transported by the document transport means when the document passes over the reading position; a guide member which serves as a guide face for guiding the document to the reading position so as to form a predetermined inclination angle with respect to a flat-plate face of the support means; a transport path forming member for forming a transport path with the support means so that the document which passes over the reading position is transported along the flat-plate face of the support means; and detection means for detecting a leading end position of the guide member, wherein the predetermined reading position is set within a range of predetermined distance in a transport direction from the leading end of the guide member as detected by the detection means, which is known beforehand to be free from stains on the support member caused by a contact with the document.